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#### **ABSTRACT**

The Saint Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center School of Nursing Library has a strong collection of nursing and nursing management journals. With the rising subscription costs of periodicals, it was necessary to evaluate the collection of periodicals. This study was done to evaluate the periodicals that the library has in paper form. The study involved in-house use of periodicals only. The number of times a journal was used during a 14-month period was tabulated. Titles were given different rankings based on cost, and on whether they were included in an index to which the nursing library subscribed. After collecting and analyzing the data, the rank system proved unfair in certain instances, with too much emphasis on cost and not enough analysis of circulation; therefore, periodicals were individually studied to determine whether or not to continue subscriptions or to purchase them on microform. Two appendixes contain the journal rankings and a list of journals to continue, consider for purchase on microform, receive as gifts (continue), and discontinue. (Contains 20 references.) (ALF)

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PERIODICAL UTILIZATION STUDY: SAINT ELIZABETH HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER, SCHOOL OF NURSING LIBRARY YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

A Master's Research Paper submitted to the Kent State University School of Library Science in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of Library Science

by

Holly Ryan

August, 1991

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The Saint Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center School of Nursing Library has a strong collection of nursing journals as well as nursing management journals. With the rising subscription costs of periodicals, it was necessary to evaluate the collection of periodicals. This study was done to evaluate the periodicals that the library has in paper The study involved in-house use of periodicals only. form. The number of times a journal was used during a fourteen month period was tabulated. Titles were given different rankings based on the following criteria: cost, use, and whether indexed or not in an index that the nursing library subscribed. After collecting and analyzing the data, the rank system proved unfair in certain instances, and therefore periodicals were individually studied to determine: 1) to continue; 2) to purchase on microform or 3) to discontinue.



Master's Research Paper by

Holly J. Ryan

B.A., LaRoche College, 1989

M.L.S., Kent State University, 1991

Approved by C. Mellott. \_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_<u>7-29-9/</u>

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Saint Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center, Nursing Library, Youngstown, Ohio, is open to all nursing students enrolled in the three year "diploma" program at Saint Elizabeth, as well as to school of nursing faculty, and hospital personnel. Any outsider can use the library but is not permitted to sign any materials out. On an average day, approximately 60-70 patrons come into the library. Outside users come from the University of Akron, Kent State University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Pittsburgh, as well as other universities to use the Nursing Library.

The library provides a core collection of materials that are used in the fundamental courses in each discipline of nursing. The Nursing Library provides books, periodicals and journals (both in microfiche and paper), reference books, computer software, college catalogs, and pamphlets. The library also supplies ERIC documents, some government documents, and all NLN (National League of Nursing) publications. Ohio Nurses' Association, or ONA, publications are also available at this library. The library also provides the student nurse with materials for preparing a master's thesis in nursing.

With the rising costs of periodicals and reference



materials as well as the continuous need of updated nursing manuals, it was evident that a periodical study needed to be conducted to find out which periodicals should be kept and which ones should be discontinued. A periodical use study should be conducted to evaluate the periodical collection and to cut the size of paper periodicals by 10%. An alternative to discontinuing periodicals and journals would be to purchase the less used periodicals on microform. In addition to the rising costs of subscriptions, the library has anticipated space restrictions, and therefore, the staff should examine high and low use titles for discontinuation or perhaps possible off-site storage.

In 1990, St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center changed the name of the School of Nursing Library to the Nursing Library. This change brought about the need to put more emphasis on research tools that an "already" RN would need to obtain a bachelor's degree or a master's degree in nursing.

Many nurses who work at Saint Elizabeth Hospital graduated from that hospital's school of nursing program. Graduating from a diploma school, these registered nurses do not have bachelor's degrees. Many of these nurses have decided to continue their education. Thus, it is imperative that the School of Nursing Library be equipped with up-to-date material as well as older material for retrospective searching. The school library has to make important decisions as to what journals the patrons are indeed using.



Many periodicals are donated to the school library by doctors, administrators, nursing faculty, and former students. Several periodicals are free to the library. Some periodicals come with a membership to a particular organization, such as the National League of Nursing newsletters.

The periodical collection at the School of Nursing includes titles in both paper and microfiche. The stacks are open, which means the patrons are asked to retrieve their own periodicals and journals. The school library is not staffed to handle a closed stack periodical collection. The library staff makes every attempt to keep patrons from reshelving their materials. Carts are placed throughout the library and signs informing the users not to reshelve are numerous in the library.

#### REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Theresa Dombrowski, an Assistant Librarian at the Health Sciences Library at State University of New York at Buffalo, decided to evaluate that library's costly subscriptions to see if the expenses were justified by the use of Journal Citation Reports. This citation analysis cannot be used as a sole method of journal evaluation, but if it is used in conjunction with other evaluative methods, it can prove a fairly accurate



Theresa Dombrowski, "Journal Evaluation Using Journal Citation Reports as a Collection Development Tool," Collection Management 10, no. 3 and 4 (1988): 175.

picture of a journal's value."<sup>2</sup> However, citation analysis is a good method to study journal selection in a single field, such as nursing. According to F.W. Lancaster, the decision to discontinue a title strictly by the number of times used is inappropriate. Lancaster adds, "suppose one decides that the criteria to be taken into consideration are: degree of use, opinion, cost, and the correlation between subject matter and institutional interests."<sup>3</sup> Cost factors are readily available, however; the others are not. Lancaster adds, that it would be necessary to do an in-house use study.<sup>4</sup>

F.W. Lancaster introduced the dot method for studying periodical use. Each time a periodical is returned to the shelf (by a staff member), the shelver puts a dot on the spine. Margaret Goldblatt conducted a periodical use study and examined the following topics: circulation statistics, journal type, subscription type, subscription costs, indexing, faculty opinion, and analysis of second-copy subscription. She concluded that a significant number of journals are never

<sup>.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> 

F.W. Lancaster, <u>If You Want to Evaluate Your Library...</u> (Champaign, IL: University of Illinois, 1988), 66.

Ibid., 67.

<sup>5</sup> 

Margaret Goldblatt, "Current Legal Periodicals: A Use Study," <u>Law Library Journal</u> 10, no. 55 (1986): 57.

consulted and few titles are circulated frequently.<sup>6</sup> After counting journal use at the Washington University Freund Law Library, St. Louis, for twelve months, Goldblatt found that 62% of the total collection had been used, and that 37.8% of the collection had not been consulted during the yea.<sup>7</sup>

Nancy Frallbrant described a study of the use of periodicals at a medium size university library. Frallbrant included several factors when deciding possible deselecting of use, cost, relation to periodicals. Included were: curriculum and user needs, citation frequency, language of (inter-library availability publication, and Frallbrant set out to answer questions such as which periodicals were used most frequently? Which periodicals are in low demand and were candidates for withdrawal, remote Was there a need for multiple storage, or cancellation? The library set up book trolleys for patrons to copies? return journals when finished. Frallbrant pointed out that this way of counting journals, as they were reshelved, was best for her study because of the short amount of research time, but she felt that it was sometimes inaccurate as a bound



<sup>5</sup> 

Ibid., 58.

<sup>7</sup> 

Ibid., 57.

<sup>8</sup> 

Nancy Frallbrant, "Rationalization of Periodical Holdings: A Case Study at Chalmers University," <u>Journal of Academic Librarianship</u> 78 (May 1984): 78.

journal with perhaps twelve issues inside gets counted once, just the same way a single issue of a periodical gets counted. In another situation, a user might consult a single journal for two different articles and the journal only gets counted once.

Shelley Bader, director at the Paul Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, conducted a study to determine which journals should be discontinued. In her study, it was decided that canceling titles based solely on a cost factor would be The library administrators also agreed that arbitrary. 10 they could not rely on "generalized citation impact studies" to discriminate which journals were essential for program support. The library agreed that if a scientific, dependable, and easily implemented method could be developed, a core group of journals that the faculty, staff, and students were reading could be determined. All bound and unbound journals in the library received machine-readable barcode labels. Before the shelver reshelved a journal, a staff member scanned the label But as Frallbrant with a portable laser barcode reader. pointed out, this way of scanning the barcode could be inaccurate. Bader also added that by keeping statistics for a lengthy period of time, any bias or intentionally pulling

<sup>,</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> 

Shelley Bader, "Analyzing In-House Journal Utilization: An Added Dimension in Decision Making," <u>Bulletin of the Medical Library Association</u> 77 (April 1989): 216.

titles would also become insignificant. 11

Other factors besides journal use data were also frequency of Factors such as considered by Bader. publication, the journals indexing priority, and the library's holdings and binding patterns were taken into account. complete deselection process identified titles no longer published and previously canceled subscriptions. Infrequently published titles or those titles that the library received for a short time were weighted differently from those titles heavily used. Cost was also used as a factor. A \$30.00 subscription used three times was given a more favorable score than a \$900.00 journal that was used three times. 12 Bader's results showed that "after incorporating the journal use data with other selection criteria, the Selection Committee recommended fifteen titles for cancellation in 1988."13 journal and library continuously monitors use suggestions for discontinuation of journals yearly. enables the library to possibly purchase new titles with new technology from the dollars saved from discontinuation.

Robert Broadus, known for his expertise with collection development, felt that probably the single most important



<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

criterion when deciding continuation or discontinuation of journals is expected use in the library, or cost in relation to use, and he added that records of past use are the most conclusive indicator of what future use will be. 14 Common sense is also a good indicator of what journals will be continued. Most items are used over and over again. Everyday observation will give the librarian clues as to what journals are being used or not. 15

One disadvantage with the use study is that use studies can be misleading and they measure not what should have been used, but rather what was used. However, if formal use studies are well done, a foundation of solid facts can be obtained. After studying use studies at University of Minnesota, Biomedical Library, Broadus concluded that each of two one week studies gave entirely different results. 16

Still other types of periodical use studies include the sweep method, the questionnaire and direct observation. The sweep method involves counting the number of volumes left on tables and other places. Some say mishelved items should be counted also. This method works well when the object of the study is to get a sample of titles used once rather than a



<sup>14</sup> 

Broadus, Robert N., "The Measurement of Periodicals Use," <u>Serials Review</u> 11 (Summer 1985): 57.

<sup>15</sup> 

Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> 

Ibid.

measure of the total use.<sup>17</sup> The questionnaire is a good way of finding facts not amenable to the sweep method; however this method can prove to be costly. This method asks patrons what journals they want or which journals they consider more valuable. This process is fairly simple but users' memories are not always reliable. Direct observation of users gives the best data, but it is very costly as a person must be paid to watch certain areas of the library.<sup>18</sup>

Alfred N. Brandon, a medical librarian, and Dorothy R. Hill, an assistant professor of medical education, prepare a selected list of nursing books and journals. Nurses and librarians use these lists, which are published bi-yearly, as a tool to develop a collection of nursing literature. 19 Librarians can compare their collection with the "Brandon and Hill List" which is a highly reputable resource in the nursing education field.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The Nursing Library began recording daily periodical use on July 1, 1989. At this time, cards were cut in a 3"X5" size. These cards were kept at the circulation desk. When a

Ibid.

Ibid.



<sup>17</sup> 

<sup>18</sup> 

<sup>19</sup> 

Alfred N. Brandon and Dorothy R. Hill, "Selected List of Nursing Books and Journals," <u>Nursing Outlook</u> 38 (March/April 1990): 86.

journal was used, a library staff member wrote the title on a card and gave that title a single slash mark. The staff member also recorded the year of the periodical being used, but for this periodical use-study actual years were not considered. By recording use in this manner, journals and newsletters that were not used did not receive a 3"X5" card, therefore it was necessary to use the Nursing Library's Periodical Holdings Listing to compile the entire listing of periodicals before analyzing the data at the end of the study. The Periodical Holdings Listing is a book, compiled by the staff at the Nursing Library, that lists all periodicals that the library receives.

The study continued for a fourteen month period, July 1, 1989 to August 31, 1990. As Bader suggested, a longer evaluation period gave a truer representation. The fourteen month study covered an entire school year. The study encompassed the slow summer season as well as the peak times during the school year, when nursing students prepared term papers and other research papers.

According to the <u>Periodical Holdings Listing</u>, there were 345 journals and periodicals that the Nursing Library received in paper format. This total included journals and periodicals that were already discontinued. (Thirty-eight titles included were either discontinued or not published any longer). The actual number of journals being evaluated was 307.

These 3"X5" cards were arranged alphabetically for easy



access. At the end of the fourteen month study, as Goldblatt did in her study, the titles were ranked according to number of uses. The price of each journal was also recorded. As Lancaster suggested, the data (uses and costs) were collected and each criterion was weighed. As Goldblatt suggested, the titles were looked up in CINAHL, Cumulative Index to Nursing and HLI, Hospital Literature Index, to see if they were indexed there.

To set up a scale for comparison, points were given to each journal based on use, costs, and whether or not it was indexed in CINAHL or HLI.<sup>20</sup> This method was suggested by Lancaster in his library studies. Table one shows how the point values were assigned and ranked.

Table 1.--Suggested Ranking of Periodicals

COSTS	Free/Year (40 points)	Maximum price (0 points)
USES	100 Uses /Study (50 points)	0 Uses/Study (0 points)
INDEXED	Yes (10 points)	No (0 points)

<sup>20</sup> 

Lancaster, 67.

This method gave a periodical a maximum of 100 points. An example of how points might be given follows: a periodical cost \$36.00, was used 102 times during the study, and was indexed in CINAHL. The periodical received 30 points (COSTS) as it was not nearly as close to the maximum price of yearly subscription (\$250.00). The periodical received the maximum number of points for uses, 50 points. And finally, 10 points were given because the periodical was indexed in CINAHL. (Whether the journal is indexed in one or both of the indexes, it still received a value of 10.) When adding these points up, 90 points were given for this periodical.

The study did not determine whether or not to purchase multiple copies of a particular title. The listing included journals that the library received free of charge. The study did not include user type, in other words, who uses what journal, nor did it cover journal type: clinical or research?

In the Dombrowski study, journal type was studied by a process called citation analysis. It was unfair to compare journals whose purpose was current awareness with ones primarily used to publish research papers. The Nursing Library has several clinical nursing journals and comparing them with research journals would not give an accurate count. RN was used more frequently than Western Journal of Nursing Research; however, Western Journal was cited more frequently



<sup>21</sup> 

Dombrowski, 175.

and would score higher showing a sign to possibly discontinue RN, one of the most widely read nursing periodicals in the United States. The citation analysis method doesn't account for journals' subject scope, purpose and language. And finally, "a new journal may not be cited as often as an older journal that has had time to gain a good reputation."

Appendix 1 gives a complete listing of all journals used in this study. Table 2 gives an example of an entry and an explanation of how to interpret that entry.

Table 2.--SAMPLE ENTRY

## ADVANCES IN NURSING SCIENCE (TITLE)

57	26	(JOURNAL WAS USED 57 TIMES FOR A RANK OF 26)
вотн	10	(JOURNAL WAS INDEXED, THEREFORE RECEIVES 10)
\$53.50	17	(COST RANK OF 17) 53 (53 TOTAL POINTS)
		THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

#### ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

After gathering the statistics and ranking the journals and periodicals, it was obvious that there was a problem with this type of ranking. Periodicals that were free or gifts to the library received a cost ranking of 40 points. Therefore, it was common for a free unused periodical to receive a higher ranking than a frequently used expensive journal. An example, Western Journal of Nursing Research cost \$108.00 per year (0)



Dombrowski, 176.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

Diterature Index (10 points); and was used 75 times (38 points) during the fourteen month study. Western Journal of Nursing Research received a total of 48 points. Reflections, a free periodical (40 points), was indexed in CINAHL (10 points), but was only used one time (1 point) in fourteen months. Reflections received 51 points total. To someone only looking at numbers, it would appear that Reflections should continue and Western Journal should be discontinued.

It was for this reason that each journal was analyzed separately to determine to discontinue, to continue, or to purchase on microform. Perhaps the number of times a journal was used during this study should have been weighted more heavily than it was. The cost should obviously have played a factor in decision making, but it should not have been rated so heavily.

Because the actual number ranking meant so little, the Brandon and Hill List became significant now. If the journal appeared on the Brandon and Hill List, it was kept either in paper or microform.

Two hundred and seventy-four (89.26%) of all titles were recommended to continue. The remaining 33 titles were recommended for discontinuation. By discontinuing these 33 titles, the library saved \$1260.50 each year. This savings obviously did not include the amount saved if current paper subscriptions were purchased on microform.



The findings showed that 40.3% of the titles were used less than five times. This percentage was not as sharp as Goldblatt's results.

When analyzing the thirty-three titles for discontinuation, all but two were used less than eight times. The two that scored higher, <u>Family and Community Health</u> and <u>Journal of Nutrition Education</u>, were fairly expensive for the number of times used. Also, the Nursing Library had other periodicals that cover topics that would be included in both of these journals.

When consulting <u>Medical Periodicals in Northeastern Ohio</u>, <u>14th Edition</u>, it was found that of the 33 titles, the Nursing Library was the only library in the entire consortium to carry 26 of those 33 titles. The remaining seven titles were carried at either Geauga Hospital, Saint Elizabeth Hospital Library, University of Akron, Youngstown State University, NEOUCOM, or Walsh College. Table 3 shows the periodicals recommended for discontinuation and the member libraries that also subscribe to these periodicals.



Table 3.--Some Periodicals Suggested for Discontinuation

PERIODICAL TITLE	LIBRARY BESIDES NURSING LIBRARY THAT CARRIES JOURNAL	TIMES USED AT THE LIBRARY
Family and Community Health	Youngstown State Univ.	20
Hospital Practice	St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Library	1
Issues:	Geauga Hospital	8
Journal of Nutrition Education	NEOUCOM Walsh College	20
Nutrition & the M.D.	Geauga Hospital	1
Scientific American	St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Library	6

Table three suggests that it would be more economical to borrow through inter-library loan a newsletter such as Nutrition & the M.D. from Geauga Hospital than to subscribe to it for \$42.00 per year for the one time that it was used in the fourteen month study. Table three also points out that St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Library carries at least two journals that the St. Elizabeth Nursing Library subscribes. Hospital Practice and Scientific American were both used a minimal amount of times, and therefore the library staff from the Nursing Library could easily walk over to the Medical Library for these few times that the periodicals are needed. Seventy-eight dollars were spent each year on these two periodicals.

The Nursing Library had an excessive number of hospital



management journals that were not being used. Table four lists the hospital management periodicals that were recommended for discontinuation. The table also includes the number of times these journals were used. These five subscriptions were costing the Nursing Library \$177.00 each year. Perhaps the one or two times the journal was reviewed was by a browser not actually needing the information inside.

Table 4.--Hospital Management Journals Suggested for Discontinuation

TITLE OF PERIODICAL	TIMES USED
AHA News	1.
Catholic Health World	0
Hospital Practice	1
Legal Ease	1
SB (Statistical Bulletin)	2

Table four shows that the Nursing Library may be spending too much of their budget on hospital administration and management periodicals. The Nursing Library does, however, provide its users with a strong collection of nursing administration periodicals such as <a href="Mursing Management">Nursing Management</a> and <a href="Journal of Nursing Administration.">Journal of Nursing Administration</a>.

The study also recommended that many journals emphasizing drugs or alcohol and nutrition be discontinued. These journals were recommended for discontinuation because the Nursing Library already subscribed to several quality journals that relate to these areas. It was not necessary to continue



subscribing to these journals when they were only used a handful of times. Titles recommended for discontinuation include: <u>Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education</u>, <u>Prevention Pipeline</u>, and <u>Journal of Nutrition Education</u>.

More expensive but less frequently used journals were put on a suggested list for microform purchase. Sixty-seven titles or 16% of the total number of journals were recommended for microform purchase.

The library is well equipped with educational and teaching journals for the nursing instructors, however after reviewing the data, it was found that these journals were not being used. These journals were not very expensive, for example, Academe (\$38.00) and College Teaching (\$42.00). These journals were only used one time and five times, respectively. Therefore, these titles were recommended for microform purchase.

computer and technology journals were not heavily used either, but perhaps these should not be discontinued so that they can be used by the browser wishing to read more about computer technology. A computer journal suggested for continuation on paper was Computers in Nursing. Computers in Nursing was consulted 30 times, was indexed in Hospital Literature Index, and cost \$55.00 per year. It had a final rank of 40. Some computer journals were suggested for microform purchase. These include Computers in Healthcare and Journal of Computer-Based Instruction. Computers in



Healthcare was only used six times, was indexed in Hospital Literature Index, and cost \$24.00. Because of its inexpensive cost, Computers in Healthcare received a ranking of 47. This journal scored higher than Computers in Nursing which was consulted 30 times during the study. Again, it was for this reason that journals were evaluated individually. Journal of Computer-Based Instruction scored a 28 and it was never even consulted! This was due to the fact that the journal was relatively inexpensive. It was suggested to purchase this journal in microform. These journals should be watched closely to see if use increases in the next year.

of the fifty-seven journals and periodicals received free or as a gift, only nine or 15.1% of the titles were used more than 10 times. These nine journals, which were usually donated to the library, received very high rankings. An example, Point of View, was used 14 times, was indexed in CINAHL, and was free. Because it was free, it received 40 points in addition to its 17 points for usage and indexing. Of the fifty-six free periodicals received, 45 titles were consulted less than five times.

Recreational reading materials such as <u>Good Housekeeping</u> and <u>Newsweek</u> ranked high. The number of uses were usually high and the costs were almost always reasonable. The only problem noted was that patrons frequently reshelved these materials themselves when finished, therefore giving a slightly lower, inaccurate count.

Appendix 2 suggests a list of which journals should be continued, purchased on microform, or discontinued. Appendix 2 also lists periodicals and journals which were donated or free to the library. It was very apparent that if the journal was not indexed, it was not frequently used.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The data gathered in this study proved to be very valuable, however the ranking was unfair especially to very expensive journals. The data was important in determining whether to keep a journal or not on an individual basis.

The figures did not reflect a fair representation of journal use; if one person came into the library on a given day and browsed through five years of a journal (published monthly), it appeared to be used heavily (60 times). This journal may never be consulted again. Perhaps in the future, a study could be conducted to evaluate user type. As Broadus suggested a questionnaire could be given to show if one person is repeatedly using the same journal.

When comparing the list of suggested journals to continue with the Brandon and Hill List, a bi-yearly listing of suggested books and journals for a nursing library, the St. Elizabeth Nursing Library continued to subscribe to 100% of the titles appearing on the 1990 list. A few of the less used titles such as <u>Journal of Nursing Quality Assurance</u> have been recommended for purchase on microform.

The journals used for educating the instructors on new



ways of teaching should be put on microform. Several of these journals and periodicals were not indexed in the indexing tools that the Nursing Library has; therefore, the possibility of sending a flyer to instructors to make them aware of what ideas are being written about in these journals should be discussed.

Computer technology journals should be kept although their use was not very high. With the increasing role that computers are playing in the medical field, these journals should be kept and watched closely in the next year, but it is likely that use will increase.

The lesser used journals should be considered for microform purchase. Microform is very inexpensive, so it was recommended that the library buy back volumes of these journals to complete sets for students interested in retrospective searching.

All free or gift journals will be continued. With the need for space in the future, possibly these journals should be kept for a shorter period of time, perhaps for three to five years. It seems highly unlikely that someone will want information from a 1985 issue of Catholic Health World, a periodical that was not indexed in CINAHL or Hospital Literature Index. This suggestion allows the Nursing Library to continue to receive the materials that may have valuable information. The forty-five periodicals that were never consulted could possibly be evaluated in the future to see if



they should be discarded when the current issue arrives.

All recreational magazines that the Nursing Library subscribes to will be continued on paper. These titles include Newsweek, U.S. News and World Report, Ebony, and Good Housekeeping among others. These magazines are important to have in the library as they can represent a layman's point of view on healthcare as well as provide the patron with materials while taking a break or in between classes.

Another recommendation includes that the study be conducted for a longer period of time. Any intentional skewing would be insignificant over a longer period of time.

In the future, the faculty and staff should have input as to what titles they feel are necessary for the curriculum. Perhaps a survey could be given to these people to ask for their opinion before discontinuing any titles.

The periodical use study showed that the lesser used titles should be compared with the titles appearing in the Medical Periodicals in Northeastern Ohio. If titles are used only a handful of times per year, it would probably be more beneficial to borrow the materials through inter-library loan rather than subscribe to that periodical for perhaps \$50.00 per year.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE STUDY

In the event of future studies, the cost factor should not be weighted as heavily as it was in this particular study. Journal use should be ranked heavier than cost.



The library should evaluate their budget and seriously consider discontinuing periodicals and journals not often used. The dollars saved should be transferred to developing a stronger computer software collection. The dollars should also be spent on updating reference tools.

It is important to note that a library collection should rate high in quality, not quantity. The Nursing Library has a good reputation in the area of having an excellent nursing collection; however, if materials are not being utilized, they should be further evaluated for the possibility of discontinuation.

As Bader suggested, the library staff should continue to monitor journal use and make suggestions for discontinuation. If the journals that are suggested for discontinuation are canceled, and the less used journals are purchased in microform, costs will be reduced while maintaining the best possible selection of journals and periodicals. As the staff continuously monitors the periodical collection, the possibility of purchasing new titles with new technology with the dollars saved from discontinuation can be discussed.

Perhaps in the future, a user study should be done in conjunction with a periodical study to evaluate users' opinions on what journals they feel are necessary in the nursing library. Another possibility includes the faculty evaluating the journals by comparing subject content of these journals with the part of the curriculum that they teach. An



idea might be to conduct a citation analysis to see what journal titles are cited most frequently. A periodical use study showing journals checked out of the library could be conducted. This study would be much simpler than the in-house study just completed. This study would be almost 100% accurate, as staff would have written records of what is being circulated. And finally, a study could also be conducted to see which journals should be purchased in multiple copies.





## APPENDIX 1

# JOURNAL RANKINGS

AACN	NEWS 1	1	OTAL POINTS
	NO	0	
	FREE	40	41
	IIID		,
AANA	(AMERICAN	ASSOCIATION OF NURSE 39	ANESTHETISTS)
	CINAHL	10	
	\$24.00	34	83
	_		
AAOHI		10	
	38	19	
	CINAHL	10	
	\$45.00	22	51
AARP	BULLETIN		
	1	1	
	NO	0	
	FREE	40	41
ACADI		_	
	1	1 .	
	NO	0	
	\$38.00	26	27
ACTI	ON KIT FOR	HOSPITALS	
	0	0	
	NO	0	
	FREE	40	40
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	NO	0	4.3
	FREE	40	41
ADVA	NCES IN NU	RSING SCIENCE	
	57		
	вотн	10	
	\$53.50	17	53
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ADVA	NCING CLIN	ICAL CARE (FORMERLY A	.D. NURSE)
	76	38	
	CINAHL	10	
	\$16.95	39	77



ADVOCACY UPDAT	'E	
1	1	
NO	0	
FREE	40	41
AHA NEWS		•
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NO	0	
\$45.00	22	23
AIDS PATIENT C	CARE	
8	4	
CINAHL	10	
\$90.00	2	16
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AMERICA		
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\$28.00	32	35
AMERICAN BABY		
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\$15.00	39	55
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9 HLI \$50.00 AMERICAN HEALT	5 10 19 ГН	34
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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF 373 50 BOTH 10	NURSING
\$30.00 30	90
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50 25	
BOTH 10	4.1
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AMERICAN LIBRARIES	
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AMERICAN NURSE	
41 21	
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APPLIED NURSING RES	EARCH
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CINAHL 10	
\$52.00 18	67



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BIRTH			
	42	21	
	CINAHL	10	
	\$44.50	22	53
BULLE	TIN OF THE	PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORG	ANIZATIONS
	2	1	
	HLI	10	46
	\$20.00	35	40
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	6 NO	3	
	\$35.00	29	32
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CA- A		OURNAL FOR CLINICIANS	
	4 NO	2 0	
	FREE	40	42
CANAI	DIAN JOURNA 11	AL OF NURSING RESEARCH (FO	RMERLY NURSING PAPERS)
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CANAI	11	6	RMERLY NURSING PAPERS)
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CATHOLIC HEA	LTH WORLD	
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\$36.00	28	29
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8	4	
ИО	0	
\$45.00	22	26
CHILD HEALTH		
6	3	
NO		41
\$17.00	38	41
CHILDREN TO		
<del>-</del> -	26	
ВОТН		76
\$12.50	40	70
CHILDREN'S ASSOCIA	HEALTHCARE ATION FOR T	(FORMERLY JOURNAL OF THE THE CARE OF CHILDREN)
43	22	
CINAHL		
\$23.00	34	66
CHOICES IN I		CARE (FORMERLY RESPIRATORY MANAGEMENT)
12	6	
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CHRONOLOG	_	
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NO	0	40
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NO	0	
\$70.00	8	12
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COLLEGE AND DE	SEARCH LIBRARIES	
	18	
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NO	0	56
\$17.50	38	26
COLLEGE TEACHI		
5	3	
NO	0	
\$42.00	24	27
COMMUNICATING	NURSING RESEARCH	
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CINAHL	10	
\$28.00	32	57
COMMUNITY HEAL		
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CONTEMPORARY P	EDIATRIC	S			
21	11				
NO	0				31
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CONTEMPORARY S	URGERY				
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NO	0				2.5
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CONTINUING CAR	E				
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NO	0				
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2	1				
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		CORRENTS	,		43



CRITICAL CARE NURSING QUARTERLY (FORMERLY CCQ: CRITICAL CARE QUARTERLY) 94 47 BOTH 10 74 \$53.50 17 CRITICAL CARE UPDATE 3 ИО 0 21 \$50.00 19 CURRENT CONCEPTS IN NURSING 2 NO 0 21 \$50.00 19 CURRENT CONSUMER 1 NO 39 \$17.95 38 CURRENT HEALTH 2 3 6 NO 0 43 FREE 40 CURRENT LITERATURE ON AGING 1 2 NO 0 36 \$20.00 35 CURRENT PCA TOPICS 1 1 0 NO 41 40 FREE DAIRY COUNCIL DIGEST 0 0 NO 0 40 FREE 40 DEAN'S NOTES 1 10 CINAHL 51 40 FREE DEATH STUDIES (FORMERLY DEATH EDUCATION) 33 65 10 ВОТН 43 0 \$103.00



DIADEMEG EDUGA	TOP.	
DIABETES EDUCA		
13	7	
CINAHL	10	46
\$35.00	29	40
DIALYSIS AND T	RANSPLANTATION	
3	2	
NO	0	
GIFT	40	42
DCCM DIMENSIO	NS OF CRITICAL CARE NURSI	NG
82	41	
CINAHL	10	
\$56.00	15	66
\$56.00	15	00
	ONCOLOGY NURSING 7	
14 CINAHL	10	
\$15.00	39	56
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7	4	
NO	0	
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EMERGENCY CARE	7	
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CINAHL	10	33
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CINAHL	10	
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CINAHL	10	4.0
\$20.00	35	48



EMPHASIS: NURSI	NG	
24	12	
	10	
		48
\$38.00	26	40
ETHICS AND MEDI	CS	
3	2	
NO	0	
\$15.00	39	41
\$15.00	39	
ETHICS IN NURSI	NG	
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NO	0	
\$50.00	19	19
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FAMILY AND COMM	UNITY HEALTH	
28	14	
вотн	10	
\$83.50	4	28
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FAMILY RELATION	IS	
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FDA CONSUMER	•	
12	6	
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FEMALE PATIENT		
18	9	
NO	0	
\$50.00	19	38
\$30.00	19	30
FLORIDA NURSINO	G REVIEW	
1	1	
NO	0	
FREE	40	41
1771	40	7.2
FOCUS ON CRITIC	CAL CARE (FORMERLY FOCUS	ON AACN)
113	50	•
CINAHL	10	
\$49.00	20	80
\$49.00	20	00
FULD INSTITUTE	FOR TECHNOLOGY IN NURSIN	G EDUCATION
1	1	
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GASTROENTEROLOG	GY NURSING 12	(FORMERLY	SGA JOURNAL)
CINAHL \$60.00	10 12		34
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HARVARD MEDICA	L SCHOOL H	IEALTH LETT	ER
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HARVARD MEDICA	L SCHOOL N	MENTAL HEAL	TH LETTER
NO	0		
\$39.00	26		36
HASTINGS CENTE	R REPORT		
4 4 NO	0		
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HEALTH			
22	11		
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**HEALTH AFFAIRS** 10 20 HLI10 35 15 \$55.00 HEALTH CARE EDUCATION 1 DISCONTINUED HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (FORMERLY ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE OF WOMEN) 7 CINAHL 10 25 \$69.00 8 HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT REVIEW 15 29 NO 0 20 \$83.00 HEALTH CARE SUPERVISOR 10 BOTH 20 \$66.00 HEALTH EDUCATION ' 17 34 CINAHL 10 46 19 \$50.00 HEALTH FACILITIES MANAGEMENT 1 1 10 HLI 51 GIFT 40 HEALTH PROFESSION'S REPORT 32 16 0 NO 56 40 FREE HEALTH PROGRESS (FORMERLY HOSPITAL PROGRESS) 60 30 BOTH 10 FREE WITH MEMBERSHIP 40 80 HEALTH VALUES 28 14 BOTH 10

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INTERNATIONAL NURSING REVIEW
               16
     31
     BOTH
               10
                                         57
     $29.63
               31
ISSUES IN COMPREHENSIVE PEDIATRIC NURSING
               18
               10
     CINAHL
                                         36
     $69.00
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ISSUES IN MENTAL HEALTH NURSING
               7
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     CINAHL
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                                         29
     $62.00
               12
ISSUES: A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES
IN HEALTH CARE
     8
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ISSUES: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING
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JAPON (JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY
NURSES)
               7
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JOURNAL (METHODIST HOSPITAL SYSTEM)
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JOURNAL OF ADVANCED NURSING
     138
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     BOTH
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\$145.00

JOURNAL OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION 6 3 NO 0 \$35.00 29	32
JOURNAL OF AMERICAN COLLEGE HEALTH 6 3 HLI 10	
\$49.00 20	33
JOURNAL OF AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA IN MEDICI	NE
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JOURNAL OF BURN CARE AND REHABILITATION	N
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JOURNAL OF CARDIOVASCULAR NURSING 53 27	
CINAHL 10	
\$53.50 17	54
JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN NURSING	
45 23 CINAHL 10	
\$14.95 40	73
JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING	
32 16	
BOTH 10 \$70.00 8	34
JOURNAL OF COMPLIANCE IN HEALTH CARE	
2 1	
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\$44.00 23	24
JOURNAL OF COMPUTER-BASED INSTRUCTION	
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JOURNAL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN NUF	RSING
96 48	
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JOURNAL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS (FORMERLY MOBIUS) CINAHL 10 28 15 \$55.00 JOURNAL OF DIABETIC COMPLICATIONS DISCONTINUED JOURNAL OF EMERGENCY NURSING 50 109 BOTH 10 63 3 \$85.00 JOURNAL OF EXTRA-CORPOREAL TECHNOLOGY 2 10 CINAHL 37 \$40.00 25 JOURNAL OF GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING 107 50 10 CINAHL 85 25 \$40.00 JOURNAL OF HEAD TRAUMA REHABILITATION 12 6 CINAHL 10 \$64.00 10 26 JOURNAL OF HIGHER EDUCATION 2 1 NO 0 32 \$30.00 31 JOURNAL OF HOLISTIC NURSING 3 DISCONTINUED JOURNAL OF INTRAVENOUS NURSING (FORMERLY NITA) 19 38 10 CINAHL 41 \$45.00 22 JOURNAL OF LONG TERM CARE ADMINISTRATION 1 1 BOTH 10



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JOURNAL OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY 2 0 NO 21 \$50.00 19 JOURNAL OF NATIONAL BLACK NURSES' ASSOCIATION CINAHL 10 46 \$25.00 33 JOURNAL OF NEPHROLOGY NURSING 6 DISCONTINUED JOURNAL OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSING (FORMERLY JOURNAL OF NEUROSURGICAL NURSING) 27 53 10 CINAHL \$43.00 23 60 JOURNAL OF NURSE-MIDWIFERY 19 37 10 BOTH \$75.00 36 7 JOURNAL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION 287 50 BOTH 10 72 \$60.00 12 JOURNAL OF NURSING EDUCATION 123 50 BOTH 10 81 21 \$45.00 JOURNAL OF NURSING ETHICS DISCONTINUED JOURNAL OF NURSING HISTORY 8 4 CINAHL 10 43 \$35.00 29 JOURNAL OF NURSING QUALITY ASSURANCE 3



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JOURNAL OF NURSING STAFF DEVELOPMENT BOTH \$52.50 JOURNAL OF NUTRITION EDUCATION NO \$70.00 JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS, GYNECOLOGIC, AND NEONATAL NURSING BOTH \$46.00 JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMIC NURSING AND TECHNOLOGY CINAHL \$40.00 JOURNAL OF PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT CINAHL \$22.00 JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE CINAHL \$39.75 JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC NURSING CINAHL \$53.00 JOURNAL OF PERINATAL & NEONATAL NURSING CINAHL \$48.55 JOURNAL OF PERINATOLOGY BOTH \$65.00 JOURNAL OF POST ANESTHESIA NURSING CINAHL



\$69.00

JOURNAL OF PRACTICAL NURSING 30 15 BOTH 10 64 \$15.00 39 JOURNAL OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING 114 50 BOTH 10 65 \$82.00 5 JOURNAL OF PSYCHOSOCIAL NURSING (FORMERLY JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRIC NURSING) 58 29 10 CINAHL \$45.00 61 22 JOURNAL OF REHABILITATION 10 5 CINAHL 10 44 \$35.00 29 JOURNAL OF SCHOOL HEALTH 83 42 CINAHL 10 62 \$65.00 10 JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS NEVER USED (NEW SUBSCRIPTION) \$42.00 JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN DIETETIC ASSOCIATION 9 HLI10 23 \$69.00 8 JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE OF CHILDREN IN HOSPITALS 1 1 NO 0 41 FREE 40 JOURNAL OF UROLOGICAL NURSING 1 2 CINAHL 10 \$40.00 25 36 LAB FOCUS 0 0 NO 0



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MCN: THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MATERNAL CHILD NURSING 50 143 BOTH 10 91 \$30.00 31 MEDI/LEGAL JOURNAL ИО 0 FREE 41 40 MEDICAL CLINICS OF NORTH AMERICA CINAHL 10 22 \$70.00 8 MEDICAL SELF CARE NO 0 41 **\$15.00** 39 MEDICENTER MANAGEMENT 0 0 NO 40 GIFT 4.0 MENTAL HYGIENE DISCONTINUED MIDWEST ALLIANCE IN NURSING FACTSHEET 0 ИО 0 40 FREE 40 MODERN CONCEPTS OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE 0 0 NO 0 40 FREE 40 MODERN HEALTHCARE 22 11 NO 0 GIFT 40 51 MORBIDITY & MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT 5 NO 0 31 \$38.00 26 NATURE DISCONTINUED



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BOTH	10	
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WORLD HEALTH		
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\$68.00	9	9



#### APPENDIX 2

### JOURNALS TO CONTINUE SUBSCRIPTION

AANA JOURNAL

AAOHN

ADVANCES IN NURSING SCIENCE

ADVANCING CLINICAL CARE

AIDS PATIENT CARE

AMERICAN BABY

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE NATION'S HEALTH

AMERICAN NURSE

ANNA JOURNAL

ANNUAL REVIEW OF NURSING RESEARCH

**AORN** 

APPLIED NURSING RESEARCH

ARCHIVES OF PSYCHIATRIC NURSING

BTRTH

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF NURSING RESEARCH

CANADIAN NURSE

CANCER NURSING

CARING

CHILDREN TODAY

CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE

CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES

COMMUNICATING NURSING RESEARCH

COMPUTERS IN NURSING

CRITICAL CARE NURSE

CRITICAL CARE NURSING CLINICS OF NORTH AMERICA

CRITICAL CARE NURSING QUARTERLY

DEATH STUDIES

DIABETES EDUCATOR

DCCN: DIMENSIONS OF CRITICAL CARE NURSING

DIMENSIONS IN ONCOLOGY NURSING

**EBONY** 

EMERGENCY CARE QUARTERLY

EMERGENCY MEDICINE

EMERGENCY NURSE LEGAL BULLETIN

EMPHASIS : NURSING

ETHICS IN NURSING

FDA CONSUMER

FEMALE PATIENT

FOCUS ON CRITICAL CARE

GASTROENTEROLOGY NURSING

GERIATRIC NURSING

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL HEALTH LETTER

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH LETTER



HASTINGS CENTER REPORT

**HEALTH** 

HEALTH AFFAIRS

HEALTH EDUCATION

HEART AND LUNG

HOLISTIC NURSING PRACTICE

HOME HEALTHCARE NURSE

HOSPITAL MEDICINE

IMAGE: THE JOURNAL OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

IMPRINT

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NURSING STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL NURSING REVIEW

JOURNAL (SOCIETY OF OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY)

JOURNAL OF ADVANCED NURSING

JOURNAL OF BURN CARE AND REHABILITATION

JOURNAL OF CARDIOVASCULAR NURSING

JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN NURSING

JOURNAL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN NURSING

JOURNAL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS

JOURNAL OF EMERGENCY NURSING

JOURNAL OF GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

JOURNAL OF INTRAVENOUS NURSING

JOURNAL OF NEUROSCIENCE NURSING

JOURNAL OF NURSE MIDWIFERY

JOURNAL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

JOURNAL OF NURSING EDUCATION

JOURNAL OF NURSING STAFF DEVELOPMENT

JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS, GYNECOLOGY, AND NEONATAL NURSING

JOURNAL OF PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT

JOURNAL OF PEDIATIRC NURSING

JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY NURSING

JOURNAL OF POST ANESTHESIA NURSING

JOURNAL OF PRACTICAL NURSING

JOURNAL OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING

JOURNAL OF PSYCHOSOCIAL NURSING

JOURNAL OF SCHOOL HEALTH

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN DIETETIC ASSOCIATION

LADIES HOME JOURNAL

LIBRARY JOURNAL

LINACRE QUARTERLY

MATURE HEALTH

MCN: THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MATERNAL CHILD NURSING

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

NEONATAL NETWORK

NEPHROLOGY NEWS AND ISSUES

NEWSWEEK

NURSE EDUCATOR

NURSE PRACTITIONER

NURSE, PATIENT AND THE LAW

NURSE'S DRUG ALERT

NURSING



NURSING ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY

NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

NURSING CLINICS OF NORTH AMERICA

NURSINGCONNECTIONS

NURSING DIAGNOSIS

NURSING ECONOMICS

NURSING EDUCATOR MICROWORLD

NURSING FORUM

NURSING HOMES AND SENIOR CITIZEN CARE

NURSING MANAGEMENT

NURSING OUTLOOK

NURSING RESEARCH

NURSING SCIENCE QUARTERLY

NURSING TIMES/NURSING MIRROR

NUTRITION NEWS

NUTRITION TODAY

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